



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
59TH MEDICAL WING (AETC)
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO - LACKLAND TEXAS

4 JAN 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR 959 CSPS

ATTN: CAPT DOUG CHO

FROM: 59 MDW/SGVU

SUBJECT: Professional Presentation Approval

1. Your paper, entitled **State and Federal Appellant Cases for Vasectomy: Case Review from 1995-2016** presented at/published to **Society of Government Service Urologist, California, 11-15 Jan 2017** in accordance with MDWI 41-108, has been approved and assigned local file #**17023**.
2. Pertinent biographic information (name of author(s), title, etc.) has been entered into our computer file. Please advise us (by phone or mail) that your presentation was given. At that time, we will need the date (month, day and year) along with the location of your presentation. It is important to update this information so that we can provide quality support for you, your department, and the Medical Center commander. This information is used to document the scholarly activities of our professional staff and students, which is an essential component of Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center (WHASC) internship and residency programs.
3. Please know that if you are a Graduate Health Sciences Education student and your department has told you they cannot fund your publication, the 59th Clinical Research Division may pay for your basic journal publishing charges (to include costs for tables and black and white photos). We cannot pay for reprints. If you are 59 MDW staff member, we can forward your request for funds to the designated wing POC.
4. Congratulations, and thank you for your efforts and time. Your contributions are vital to the medical mission. We look forward to assisting you in your future publication/presentation efforts.

Linda Steel-Goodwin

LINDA STEEL-GOODWIN, Col, USAF, BSC
Director, Clinical Investigations & Research Support

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State and Federal Appellant Cases for Vasectomy: Case Review from 1995 to 2016

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Background

- Most common non-diagnostic urologic procedure that are performed by both urologists and non-urologists
- Vasectomy is a source of medical malpractice litigation
- Literature on types and outcomes of this litigation is lacking
- Aim: evaluate the incidence, cause, and outcomes of lawsuits filed following vasectomy

Methods

- LexisNexis national legal database of state and federal level appellate cases
- Queried all cases with terms “vasectomy” and “medical malpractice” from January 1995– January 2016
- Included: patients >18 year old, ≥1 physician as defendant

Results

Table 1. Demographics

Number of cases identified	21
Urologist identified in litigation	8 (38.1%)

Table 2. Outcomes

Defendant 13 cases cited multiple reasons for litigation	13 (61.9%)
Plaintiff 8 cases cited multiple reasons for litigation	8 (38.1%)

Results

Table 3. State verdict according to reason for litigation

Reason	Plaintiff	Defendant
Informed consent	3	3
Loss of testicle	3	3
Post op complications	3	3
Pregnancy	2	4
Reoperation	0	2
Unknown	1	0

Conclusion

- First review of medical malpractice from vasectomy
- Majority of claims were made after pregnancy, loss of testicle, or post op complications
- Majority of state appellant cases favor the defendant
- All cases involving reoperation favored defendant
- Majority of cases involving pregnancy favored defendant
- Majority of cases involving a known urologist resulted favored defendant
- Numbers too small for statistical conclusions
- Study limited by information available in legal database